ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method for recovering an authorization code which is assigned to a licensee by a licensor and is stored in an access-protected data processing device (1) that is connected to a computer of said licensee via an interface. A backup file (2) which is part of the authorization code and contains the license parameters is stored on the licensee's computer. The following steps are carried out: the license parameters associated with the licensor (6, 7, 8) are read out of the backup file (2); the license parameters are sent to the respective licensor (6, 7, 8); authorization codes corresponding to the received license parameters are recovered at the level of the licensor (6, 7, 8); the recovered authorization code is then returned to the licensee's computer; and the recovered authorization codes are stored in the data processing device (5) connected to the licensee's computer.